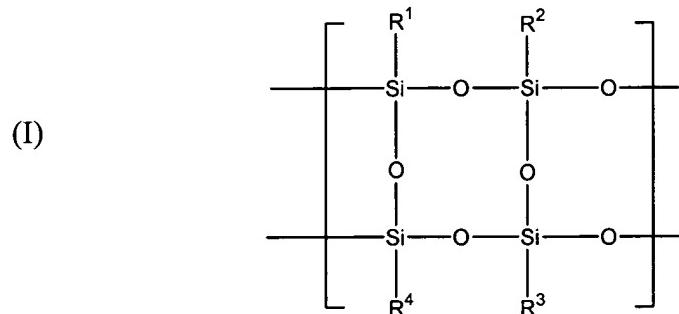


The following listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

67. (Currently amended) A fluorinated silsesquioxane polymer comprised of monomer units having the structure (I)



wherein:

R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are independently selected from the group consisting of substituents having-a terminal CR⁷R⁸R⁹ group the structure of formula -(Q)_n-CR⁷R⁸R⁹;

n is zero or 1;

Q is selected from the group consisting of arylene, substituted arylene, alkarylene, substituted alkarylene, and C₁-C₄ alkylene optionally substituted with at least one nonhydrogen substituent selected from alkyl and fluoroalkyl;

R⁷ is hydrogen, alkyl, or fluoroalkyl;

R⁸ is fluoroalkyl; and

R⁹ is OH, COOH or an acid-cleavable moiety.

68. (Canceled)

69. (Canceled)

70. (Canceled)

71. (Currently amended) The polymer of claim-69 67, wherein n is 1 and Q is selected from the group consisting of arylene, fluorinated arylene, ~~cycloalkylene~~, ~~fluorinated cycloalkylene~~, and C₁-C₄ alkylene optionally substituted with 1-8 nonhydrogen substituents selected from alkyl and fluoroalkyl.

72. (Canceled)

73. (Currently amended) The polymer of claim-72 71, wherein Q is arylene or fluorinated arylene.

74. (Canceled)

75. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 73, wherein Q is arylene.

76. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 73, wherein Q is fluorinated arylene.

77. (Canceled)

78. (Canceled)

79. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 71, wherein Q is C₁-C₄ alkylene optionally substituted with 1-8 nonhydrogen substituents selected from alkyl and fluoroalkyl.

80. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 79, wherein Q is C₁-C₄ alkylene optionally substituted with 1-8 nonhydrogen substituents selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl and C₁-C₆ fluoroalkyl.

81. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 79, wherein Q is C₁-C₄ alkylene optionally substituted with 1-8 nonhydrogen substituents selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl, trifluoromethyl, and trifluoromethyl-substituted C₁-C₆ alkyl.

82. (Canceled)

83. (Canceled)

84. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 67, wherein R⁸ is C₁-C₆ fluoroalkyl.

85. (Currently amended) The polymer of claim ~~83~~⁸⁴, wherein R⁸ is trifluoromethyl-substituted C₁-C₆ alkyl.

86. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 67, wherein R⁹ is OH.

87. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 67, wherein R⁹ is COOH.

88. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 67, wherein R⁹ is an acid-cleavable moiety.

89. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 88, wherein the acid-cleavable moiety is an acid-cleavable ester, ether or carbonate.

90. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 89, wherein R⁹ is an acid-cleavable ester.

91. (Currently amended) The polymer of claim 90, wherein R⁹ has the formula -(L)_v-(CO)-OR¹⁴ wherein v is zero or 1, L is a linking group, and R¹⁴ is selected from the group consisting of acyclic tertiary alkyl moieties, ~~cyclic-or alicyclic~~ substituents with a tertiary attachment point, and 2-trialkylsilyl ethyl moieties.

92. (Currently amended) The polymer of claim 91, wherein v is zero and R¹⁴ is acyclic tertiary alkyl.

93. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 92, wherein R¹⁴ is *t*-butyl.

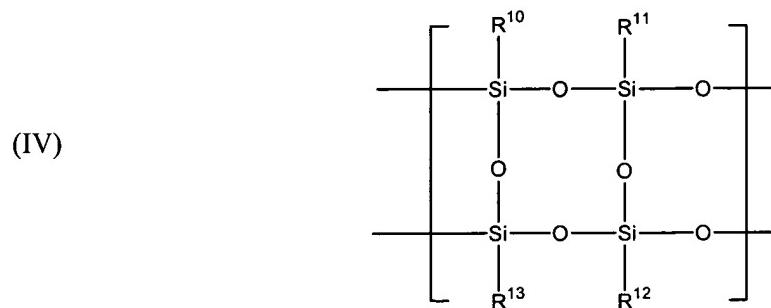
94. (Currently amended) The polymer of claim 91, wherein v is zero and R¹⁴ is a ~~cyclic-or alicyclic~~ substituent with a tertiary attachment point.

95. (Currently amended) The polymer of claim 94, wherein R¹⁴ is selected from the group consisting of adamantlyl, norbornyl, isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-adamantyl, 2-methyl-2-isobornyl, 2-butyl-2-adamantyl, 2-propyl-2-isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-tetracyclododeceny, 2-methyl-2-dihydrodicyclopentadienyl-cyclohexyl, 1-methylcyclopentyl, and 1-methylcyclohexyl, ~~2-trimethylsilyl~~ethyl, ~~and~~ 2-triethylsilyl ethyl.

96. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 91, wherein v is zero and R¹⁴ is 2-trialkylsilyl ethyl.

97. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 96, wherein R¹⁴ is 2-trimethylsilyl ethyl.

98. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 67, further comprising additional monomer units having the structure of formula (IV)



wherein R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{12} and R^{13} are independently hydrogen, alkyl, fluoroalkyl, fluorocarbinol or an acid-cleavable moiety, with the proviso that at least one of R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{12} and R^{13} is an acid-cleavable moiety.

99. (Currently amended) The polymer of claim 98, wherein ~~at least one of~~ R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{12} and R^{13} is are independently hydrogen, alkyl, or the acid-cleavable moiety, and the acid-cleavable moiety is selected from the group consisting of acid-cleavable esters, ethers, and carbonates.

100. (Previously presented) The polymer of claim 99, wherein at least one of R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{12} and R^{13} is an acid-cleavable ester.

101. (Previously presented) A lithographic photoresist composition comprising the fluorinated silsesquioxane polymer of claim 67 and a radiation-sensitive acid generator.

102. (Previously presented) A lithographic photoresist composition comprising the fluorinated silsesquioxane polymer of claim 98 and a radiation-sensitive acid generator.

103. (Previously presented) The lithographic photoresist composition of claim 101, wherein the photoresist composition is a positive resist and further comprises a photoacid-cleavable dissolution inhibitor.

104. (Previously presented) The lithographic photoresist composition of claim 102, wherein the photoresist composition is a positive resist and further comprises a photoacid-cleavable dissolution inhibitor.

105. (Previously presented) The lithographic photoresist composition of claim 101, wherein the photoresist composition is a negative resist and further comprises a crosslinking agent.

106. (Previously presented) The lithographic photoresist composition of claim 102, wherein the photoresist composition is a negative resist and further comprises a crosslinking agent.

107. (Previously presented) The lithographic photoresist composition of claim 105, wherein the crosslinking agent is a glycoluril compound.

108. (Previously presented) The lithographic photoresist composition of claim 107, wherein the glycoluril compound is selected from the group consisting of tetramethoxymethyl glycoluril, methylpropyltetramethoxymethyl glycoluril, methylphenyltetramethoxymethyl glycoluril, and mixtures thereof.

109. (Previously presented) The lithographic photoresist composition of claim 106, wherein the crosslinking agent is a glycoluril compound.

110. (Previously presented) The lithographic photoresist composition of claim 109, wherein the glycoluril compound is selected from the group consisting of tetramethoxymethyl glycoluril, methylpropyltetramethoxymethyl glycoluril, methylphenyltetramethoxymethyl glycoluril, and mixtures thereof.

111. (Withdrawn) A process for generating a resist image on a substrate, comprising the steps of:
(a) coating a substrate with a film of the photoresist composition of claim 101;
(b) exposing the film selectively to a predetermined pattern of deep ultraviolet radiation so as to form a latent, patterned image in the film; and
(c) developing the latent image with a developer.

112. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 111, wherein the deep ultraviolet radiation has a wavelength of less than 250 nm.

113. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 112, wherein the deep ultraviolet radiation has a wavelength of 157 nm.

114. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 111, wherein the substrate is a bilayer substrate comprising a base layer covered by an underlayer and the photoresist composition covers the underlayer.

115. (Withdrawn) A process for generating a resist image on a substrate, comprising the steps of:

- (a) coating a substrate with a film of the photoresist composition of claim 102;
- (b) exposing the film selectively to a predetermined pattern of deep ultraviolet radiation so as to form a latent, patterned image in the film; and
- (c) developing the latent image with a developer.

116. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 115, wherein the deep ultraviolet radiation has a wavelength of less than 250 nm.

117. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 116, wherein the deep ultraviolet radiation has a wavelength of 157 nm.

118. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 115, wherein the substrate is a bilayer substrate comprising a base layer covered by an underlayer and the photoresist composition covers the underlayer.

119. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a patterned material structure on a substrate, comprising:

- (a) providing a substrate comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of semiconductors, ceramics and metals;
- (b) applying a layer of the photoresist composition of claim 103 to the substrate;
- (c) patternwise exposing the substrate to radiation whereby acid is generated by the radiation-sensitive acid generator in exposed regions of the photoresist layer;
- (d) contacting the substrate with an aqueous alkaline developer solution, whereby the exposed regions of the photoresist layer are selectively dissolved by the developer solution to reveal a resist structure pattern; and
- (e) transferring the resist structure pattern to the substrate by etching into the substrate through spaces in the resist structure pattern.

120. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 119, wherein the radiation is deep ultraviolet radiation.

121. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a patterned material structure on a substrate, comprising:

- (a) providing a substrate comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of semiconductors, ceramics and metals;
- (b) applying a layer of the photoresist composition of claim 104 to the substrate;
- (c) patternwise exposing the substrate to radiation whereby acid is generated by the radiation-sensitive acid generator in exposed regions of the photoresist layer;
- (d) contacting the substrate with an aqueous alkaline developer solution, whereby the exposed regions of the photoresist layer are selectively dissolved by the developer solution to reveal a resist structure pattern; and
- (e) transferring the resist structure pattern to the substrate by etching into the substrate through spaces in the resist structure pattern.

122. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 119, wherein the radiation is deep ultraviolet radiation.

123. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a patterned material structure on a substrate, comprising:
- (a) providing a substrate comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of semiconductors, ceramics and metals;
 - (b) applying a layer of the photoresist composition of claim 105 to the substrate
 - (c) patternwise exposing the substrate to radiation whereby acid is generated by the radiation-sensitive acid generator in exposed regions of the photoresist layer thereby inducing crosslinking;
 - (d) contacting the substrate with an aqueous alkaline developer solution, whereby the unexposed regions of the photoresist layer are selectively dissolved by the developer solution to reveal a negative resist structure pattern; and
 - (e) transferring the negative resist structure pattern to the substrate by etching into the substrate through spaces in the negative resist structure pattern.

124. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a patterned material structure on a substrate, comprising:
- (a) providing a substrate comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of semiconductors, ceramics and metals;
 - (b) applying a layer of the photoresist composition of claim 106 to the substrate
 - (c) patternwise exposing the substrate to radiation whereby acid is generated by the radiation-sensitive acid generator in exposed regions of the photoresist layer thereby inducing crosslinking;
 - (d) contacting the substrate with an aqueous alkaline developer solution, whereby the unexposed regions of the photoresist layer are selectively dissolved by the developer solution to reveal a negative resist structure pattern; and

(e) transferring the negative resist structure pattern to the substrate by etching into the substrate through spaces in the negative resist structure pattern.

125. (New) The polymer of claim 81, wherein Q is C₁-C₄ alkylene.

126. (New) The polymer of claim 84, wherein R⁸ is trifluoromethyl.

127. (New) The polymer of claim 91, wherein v is 1 and L is selected from: linear, branched, and cyclic alkylene; linear, branched, and cyclic fluoroalkylene; and arylene.

128. (New) The polymer of claim 100, wherein the acid-cleavable ester has the formula -(L)_v-(CO)-OR¹⁴ wherein v is zero or 1, L is a linking group, and R¹⁴ is selected from the group consisting of acyclic tertiary alkyl moieties, cyclic substituents with a tertiary attachment point, and 2-trialkylsilyl ethyl moieties.

129. (New) The polymer of claim 128, wherein v is 1 and L is selected from: linear, branched, and cyclic alkylene; linear, branched, and cyclic fluoroalkylene; and arylene.

130. (New) The polymer of claim 129, wherein L is selected from linear, branched, and cyclic alkylene.

131. (New) The polymer of 130, wherein L is cyclic alkylene.

132. (New) The polymer of claim 131, wherein L is a norbornyl or cyclohexyl group.

133. (New) The polymer of claim 132, wherein L is norbornyl.

134. (New) The polymer of claim 131, wherein R¹⁴ is acyclic tertiary alkyl.

135. (New) The polymer of claim 132, wherein R¹⁴ is acyclic tertiary alkyl.

136. (New) The polymer of claim 133, wherein R¹⁴ is acyclic tertiary alkyl.

137. (New) The polymer of claim 134, wherein R¹⁴ is t-butyl.

138. (New) The polymer of claim 135, wherein R¹⁴ is *t*-butyl.

139. (New) The polymer of claim 136, wherein R¹⁴ is *t*-butyl.

140. (New) The polymer of claim 131 wherein R¹⁴ is a cyclic substituent with a tertiary attachment point.

141. (New) The polymer of claim 132, wherein R¹⁴ is a cyclic substituent with a tertiary attachment point.

142. (New) The polymer of claim 133, wherein R¹⁴ is a cyclic substituent with a tertiary attachment point.

143. (New) The polymer of claim 140, wherein R¹⁴ is selected from the group consisting of adamanyl, norbornyl, isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-adamantyl, 2-methyl-2-isobornyl, 2-butyl-2-adamantyl, 2-propyl-2-isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-tetracyclododeceny, 2-methyl-2-dihydrodicyclopentadienyl-cyclohexyl, 1-methylcyclopentyl, and 1-methylcyclohexyl.

144. (New) The polymer of claim 141, wherein R¹⁴ is selected from the group consisting of adamanyl, norbornyl, isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-adamantyl, 2-methyl-2-isobornyl, 2-butyl-2-adamantyl, 2-propyl-2-isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-tetracyclododeceny, 2-methyl-2-dihydrodicyclopentadienyl-cyclohexyl, 1-methylcyclopentyl, and 1-methylcyclohexyl.

145. (New) The polymer of claim 144, wherein R¹⁴ is selected from the group consisting of adamanyl, norbornyl, isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-adamantyl, 2-methyl-2-isobornyl, 2-butyl-2-adamantyl, 2-propyl-2-isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-tetracyclododeceny, 2-methyl-2-dihydrodicyclopentadienyl-cyclohexyl, 1-methylcyclopentyl, and 1-methylcyclohexyl.

146. (New) The polymer of claim 131, wherein R¹⁴ is 2-trialkylsilylethyl.

147. (New) The polymer of claim 132, wherein R¹⁴ is 2-trialkylsilylethyl.

148. (New) The polymer of claim 133, wherein R¹⁴ is 2-trialkylsilylethyl.

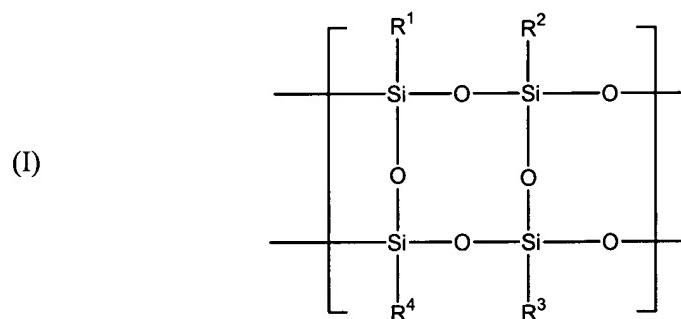
149. (New) The polymer of claim 131, wherein R¹⁴ is 2-trialkylsilyleethyl.

150. (New) The polymer of claim 147, wherein R¹⁴ is 2-trimethylsilyleethyl.

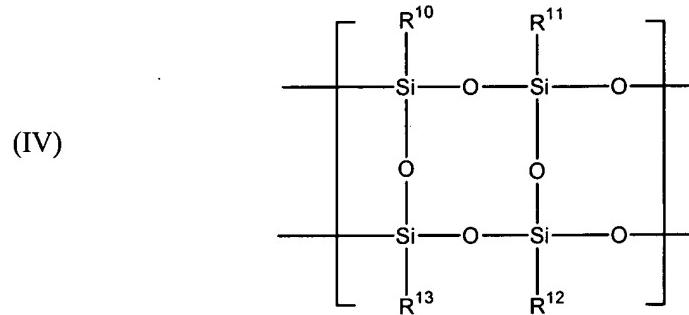
151. (New) The polymer of claim 148, wherein R¹⁴ is 2-trimethylsilyleethyl.

152. (New) The polymer of claim 151, wherein R¹⁴ is 2-trimethylsilyleethyl.

153. (New) A copolymer comprised of fluorinated silsesquioxane monomer units having the structure (I)



and silsesquioxane comonomer units having the structure (IV)



wherein:

R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are independently selected from substituents of the formula -Q-CHR⁸R⁹;

Q is C₁-C₄ alkylene;

R⁸ is C₁-C₆ fluoroalkyl;

R⁹ is OH or COOH;

R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{12} and R^{13} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, and acid-cleavable esters of the formula -L-(CO)-OR¹⁴, with the proviso that at least one of R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{12} and R^{13} is an acid-cleavable ester of the formula -L-(CO)-OR¹⁴;

L is a cycloalkylene linking group; and

R^{14} is selected from the group consisting of acyclic tertiary alkyl moieties, cyclic substituents with a tertiary attachment point, and 2-trialkylsilyl ethyl moieties.

154. (New) The copolymer of claim 153, wherein:

R^8 is selected from trifluoromethyl and trifluoromethyl-substituted C₁-C₆ alkyl; and

R^9 is OH.

155. (New) The copolymer of claim 154, wherein:

R^8 is trifluoromethyl;

R^{14} is selected from the group consisting of *t*-butyl, adamantyl, norbornyl, isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-adamantyl, 2-methyl-2-isobornyl, 2-butyl-2-adamantyl, 2-propyl-2-isobornyl, 2-methyl-2-tetracyclododecenyl, 2-methyl-2-dihydrodicyclopentadienyl-cyclohexyl, 1-methylcyclopentyl, 1-methylcyclohexyl, 2-trimethylsilyl ethyl, and 2-triethylsilyl ethyl.

156. (New) The copolymer of claim 155, wherein:

L is norbornyl; and

R^{14} is *t*-butyl.

157. (New) A lithographic photoresist composition comprising the copolymer of claim 153 and a radiation-sensitive acid generator.

158. (New) The lithographic photoresist composition of claim 157, wherein the photoresist composition is a positive resist and further comprises a photoacid-cleavable dissolution inhibitor.

159. (New) The lithographic photoresist composition of claim 157, wherein the photoresist composition is a negative resist and further comprises a crosslinking agent.